

Culmington Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting on Tuesday 1st October 2024

Present: Councillors Mr M Seabrook (Chair), Mr Ian Alderson, Mrs C Byng, Ms J Mear, Mr I Steele. **In Attendance:** Cllr Cecilia Motley (Shropshire Council) and H Coonick (Clerk/RFO).

1. **Receive Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Andrew Pike, Mrs M Holland, Mr J Turley and Ms J Watts
2. **Declarations of Interest relating to this meeting:** - None
3. **Public Involvement Session:** No members of the public were in attendance.
4. **Minutes:** To approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3rd September 2024.
RESOLVED: to approve as a correct record and the chair signed the minutes.
5. **Reports from Members**
 - 5.1. Shropshire Council – Cllr Motley reported that Shropshire Council is among a number of authorities that are experiencing financial difficulties. They have received nothing from the government on how they plan to deal with councils which are struggling. There is concern that the plans to build more houses may affect rural areas, particularly in areas where the infrastructure is already limited. Shropshire Council has responded to the new National Planning Policy Framework consultation. There has been a delay in the stickers for green bins being distributed – continue to put green bins out as the refuse collectors know who has paid the fee. The new government wants more devolution. Shropshire Council is in discussions with Herefordshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire and Staffordshire. Cllr Motley reported that she will not stand at the next election. Councillors were very saddened to hear this news as Cllr Motley has been an excellent councillor, acting on behalf of the Corvedale over many years.
 - 5.2. Village Hall Committee– Cllr Mear reported that the Bluebells event had been very successful. There is the Tractor Run on the 13th October, with proceeds going to the MS Society and Culmington Village Hall renovations and the Corvedale Choir will hold a Christmas concert at the Hall. The Clerk reported that an application to change the entry on the Land Registry for the Village Hall had been made.
 - 5.3. South Shropshire Area Committee – H Coonick (Clerk) Deferred to the next meeting.
6. **Planning:**
 - 6.1. **TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 APPEAL UNDER SECTION 78**
Proposed Dwelling At Land To The North Of Seifton House, Seifton. Erection of 1 no. detached dwelling and detached single garage. Application reference: 23/04139/FUL.
RESOLVED: to refer the inspector to the submission made to Shropshire Council on the 27th October 2023 as the circumstances are unchanged.
7. **Consider Use of the Neighbourhood Fund to Extend the Speed Limit to Clay Lane:**
The council has not received a response from the Place Plan team despite two emails. Cllr Motley suggested contacting Mr Newton, Traffic Engineer for Shropshire Council.
8. **Consider a Response to Shropshire Council's Local Council Survey:**
RESOLVED: to respond that the council is willing to enter discussions with Shropshire Council but it does not have funding to support services presently funded by Shropshire Council. It does support the Environmental Maintenance Grant being fully reinstated next year and to have greater freedom about how the grant can be used within the parish.

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9. **Update on the Blocked Bridleway:** Shropshire Council Outdoor Partnership Team are presently exploring options in how to clear the bridleway.
10. **Consider Enquiring with Shropshire Council Why VAT is Charged on the Green Waste Bin Collection:** Cllr Motley will investigate why there is a VAT charge.
11. **Decide Whether to Request that the Public Waste Bin is Moved to Near the Village Hall:**
RESOLVED: to ask Shropshire Council to move the public waste bin to the southern entrance to footpath 0524/39/1 near Culmington Village Hall.
12. **Finance:**
 - 12.1. Review the Finance Report and Expenditure Against Budget: Expenditure is within budget except for a slight overspend by £20.80 for insurance.
RESOLVED: to accept the report.
 - 12.2. Agree and Sign the Bank Reconciliation: The Lloyds Bank account held £13,524.45 as of the 23rd August 2024 which included the Environmental Maintenance and Parish Paths Grants and the Neighbourhood Fund.
RESOLVED: Cllrs Byng and Steele signed the bank reconciliation as correct.
 - 12.3. Consider Projects for Inclusion in the Draft Budget for 2025-2026: a. Replacement of the Neighbourhood Watch Sign in Culmington.
 - 12.4. Authorise Payments: D Lewis (Environmental Maintenance) Inv 629 £135, H Coonick (Clerk, reimbursement for stationery, training) £21.43
RESOLVED: to make the above payments.
13. **Items for the Next Parish Council Meeting at 7pm on Tuesday 5th November 2024:** a. to consider requesting a Tree Preservation Order on the limes and pines opposite Culmington Village Hall

Signed by the Chair:

Date: